



**Ward 8 By-Election
March 19, 2024
Regular Board Meeting**

The school division will be required to hold a by-election for ward 8 (Lac Du Bonnet) vacancy. This ward represents the Lac Du Bonnet area. The schools Lac Du Bonnet Senior and Centennial school are located in the ward. As per sections 26 of the School Board Act. A motion is not required. The returning officer, the division's Senior Elections Officer (SEO), is to hold a new election to fill the vacancy. Presently Krystal Cramer is the SEO for the division.

It is recommended to hold the by-election in Lac Du Bonnet, at one of the schools, on a divisional PD day and not on a statutory holiday.

Cost and budget

Consulting with the SEO the cost for a by-election will be approximately \$4,500 assuming the division will be utilizing a school site for a polling location. An advance poll date will also occur and renting space has been considered in the estimated costs.

Annually there is a budget set for \$5,000 allowing the SEO to maintain voting lists. At this time the budget will be utilized for the by-election.

Election Date

For the election to be held on **May 6, 2024**, advertising for the nomination period must start March 11th.

The next divisional PD Day is June 28th. This is not an ideal time as families will be preparing for the summer holidays and the board will only meet in August. If a PD Day is not selected the election will occur during school hours or a facility will be rented.

Timeline

May 6 -the recommended election day, on a divisional PD day
March 11 - Notice to the public, March 14th in local paper (the Clipper)
March 25-31 – Nomination period.

If only one applicant submits nomination papers no election will be held.

May 6 – Election day

August 4 – Election end – All paperwork will be stored as per records retention.

If no one submits during the nomination period as per section 26(6) the board can appoint a trustee.

Sections of the act that will guide timelines of the election

Filling of vacancies.

26(1) Subject to subsection (2), where

(a) no return is made for one or more wards or polling subdivisions in consequence of nonelection owing to interruption from any cause; or

(b) a person elected to a school board neglects or refuses to accept office or to make the necessary declarations of office within the time required: or

(c) a vacancy occurs on the school board caused by reason of the resignation of the chairman or other member of the school board, by death, by judicial decision or otherwise; or

(d) a vacancy is about to occur due to the receipt by the secretary-treasurer of a resignation under section 39;

the chairman of the school board for the time being, or, in the case of his absence or of his office being vacant, the secretary-treasurer, or, in the case of the like absence or vacancy in the office of the secretary-treasurer, one of the trustees shall, forthwith, by warrant, under the signature of the chairman, secretary-treasurer or trustee, as the case may be, require the returning officer to hold a new election to fill the vacancy.

Time for holding election.

26(5) The election shall be held not later than six weeks after the issue of the warrant, and the returning officer shall appoint a day and a place for the nomination of candidates and a day on which the election shall be held and the election shall, in respect to notices and other matters, be conducted in the same manner as the regular elections of the school division or school district.

Appointment of trustees if election neglected.

26(6) Where at a regular or other election of a school division or school district, or at a regular or other nomination, not being a case of an interrupted election, the electors neglect or decline to elect or nominate a trustee on the day appointed or to elect or nominate the requisite number of trustees,

(a) the members of the new school board if they constitute a majority of the school board; or

(b) if the members of the new school board do not constitute a majority of the full school board, the members of the school board for the last preceding year or a majority of them;

shall appoint, where necessary, as many qualified persons as will constitute or complete the number of trustees requisite for the school board.